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Community Art Centre

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R. E. G. DAVIS,
Executive Director

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One World in Human Need

CONSTRUCTIVE movements historically do not develop ready made and move from the top down. They grow from the convictions and the labours of great masses of people who, believing in the rightness of their cause, are willing to sacrifice themselves and their means and their comfort to advance their ideals.

Where is this spirit today in respect to the obligations and the privileges of this continent to divide its abundance with the starving millions of the Old Worlds of East and West? Nowhere can be observed a real down-to-earth effort to save, to conserve, to share. Sporadic efforts, it is true, are made on the part of a comparatively small number of conscientious people but on the whole the post-war desire to spend, to indulge, to satisfy selfish desires pent up during the war years is appallingly apparent.

Unless the ravages of starvation and disease can be stayed and a measure of stable and constructive community organization be established in the wartorn countries it will be abortive for social agencies to spend themselves here to establish more comprehensive and constructive Canadian public and private services. We are one world in respect to human suffering and human behaviour. Social security, health measures, employment opportunities cannot be isolated, cannot flourish in one or two favoured nations while others are deprived of basic necessities.

Greed and selfishness, waste and lack of planning on this fortunate continent could be controlled if the socially-minded men and women who are concerned about North America's health and welfare standards, and work and give to provide constructive programs, cared sufficiently to put the same drive and leadership into conservation and the routing of resources to the stricken areas.

This is a moment of destiny. Unless we are willing to share our resources with the deprived, world anarchy may be the tragic result of our inertia. A people's movement is necessary to galvanize the public into action. The boards and staffs of health and welfare agencies, the interested men and women behind these organizations could be a potent force in moulding public opinion, in stimulating public support. There is a responsibility that goes with knowledge and this responsibility rests upon us all.

Public Welfare in British Columbia

by

*A Group of Supervisors in the Social Assistance Branch,
Department of the Provincial Secretary*

DEVELOPMENTS in British Columbia's public welfare program have been so rapid in the last three years, and candidly, have been accompanied by so many internal strains of transition and growth, that it has been difficult even in this Province, let alone the rest of Canada, to see the over-all pattern clearly. However, although growth has by no means stopped, the pattern now can be seen much more readily, and seen too, we think, as conforming with sound principles of present-day government. This article then, will depict the pattern as we see it today, under the general headings of administration, divisions of responsibility between provincial and municipal governments, "coverage", or the extent of services rendered, and the equally important field of personnel practices.

The key factor to be kept in mind in so far as British Columbia's public welfare administration is concerned, is that all social services as such are under *a single administration*. Under the Cabinet Minister—at present the Provincial Secretary—the senior administrative officials are the Assistant Deputy Provincial Secretary, the Director and the Assistant Director of Welfare. The Divisions administering specialized social

legislation are responsible to the Minister through these officials, and are organized as follows:

Family Services The Family Services Division, which administers the broad Social Assistance Act and the Mothers' Allowances Act, and through which all services given on behalf of the federal and municipal governments are supervised.

Old Age The Old Age Pension Board, since its transfer to the Social Assistance Branch in 1943, has emphasized the necessity for case work methods being used in every contact with our 16,000 pensioners. These professional services in many instances go far beyond the required annual report, and supervision of this work is maintained by the Board's Social Service Supervisor.

Child Welfare The Child Welfare Division, administering the Protection of Children, Adoption, and Children of Unmarried Parents' Acts, is responsible also for the development and supervision of provincial foster home and child placing services.

Tuberculosis and Venereal Disease The Divisions of Tuberculosis and Venereal Disease Control, each a large program within the Provincial Health Department, each have

strong social service sections integrating the medical and social treatment inherent in the control of these social diseases.

Psychiatric Services The Psychiatric Division, giving through the Child Guidance Clinic specialized consultation and treatment, and quite separate from clinical services, giving supervision with regard to psychiatric case work where mental hospital patients and their families are involved.

Hospital Services The Hospital Services Division, administering the Hospital Act, the Provincial Infirmary and Old People's Home Acts, and the Welfare Institutions Licencing Act, has emphasized the social services attendant upon the Hospital Clearance program, and upon the professional approach and judgment needed in institutional licencing and in maintaining standards of institutional care.

Industrial Schools The Industrial Schools, aware of the values of family case work in the treatment of delinquency, through social workers in each school, link their treatment of the individual boy or girl with the total welfare program.

As may be imagined, the coordination of these separate Divisions has been one of the greatest problems to be worked through. The releasing of a new policy manual at the end of this summer will mark an achievement in integration that is worthy of special note. Policies have been worked

out through many conferences among Divisional heads, which define the responsibilities and jurisdiction of each Division, clarifying at the same time the scope of the supervision given the field staff. A unity of purpose, and a working together for the development of the Department as a whole, has been achieved through the monthly meetings during the last three years of the Supervisor's Council composed of senior officials and Divisional executives.

This whole administrative set-up may perhaps best be seen through the eyes of the social worker in the rural district office. We sometimes refer to the professional work done by the Field Service Staff as "generalized", and by this we imply a decided emphasis upon the social treatment of the family as a unit. In one home there may be any number of problems requiring one or many resources to meet the needs. Instead of half a dozen officials trying to maintain a proper contact, one worker, with a professional understanding of the family pattern, renders the necessary services. This we think is the unique characteristic of public welfare in British Columbia. Similarly, supervision is given the worker on the total family picture, and where two or more Divisions are concerned, conferences among the Division supervisors determines which will assume major supervision, and which will be a "resource" in treatment.

The foregoing deals almost exclusively with the professional practices within the Department.

The countless details of a purely administrative nature are handled in the field by the five Regional Supervisors, these duties including the management of their District Offices, of which there are twenty-one in all parts of the Province, management of professional and clerical staff, of government-owned cars and so on. Their most important function is perhaps that of public relations, however. They establish essential liaison between the province and the municipalities in their regions, and do a general interpretive job throughout. In the "chain of authority" now established, the Regional Supervisor works through the Assistant Director of Welfare in matters relating to staff and office procedure, and through the Director of Welfare in matters related to municipal relationships.

The last session of the provincial legislature saw the passage of an Act to create a new portfolio of Health and Welfare. This Act will be proclaimed at an appropriate time, but it is anticipated that except for certain administrative realignments, the new Department will follow the pattern of social welfare administration outlined above.

A development of far-reaching implication currently taking place, is the implementing of the Regulations to the Social Assistance Act. These Regulations provide that the municipalities shall assume local responsibility for administering social services within their boundaries. They may do so in one of three different ways. They may

"buy" the service from the province at the rate of 15c per capita, in which event the provincial social worker will give professional services, and administrative costs will be assumed by the province. They may appoint their own social worker to administer financial aid (Social Allowances, Mothers' Allowances, Old Age Pensions), and to give provincially supervised case work services in these categories. Under this scheme, which also provides that the municipal appointees have the qualifications set by the province, fifty per cent of the municipal worker's salary is paid by the province, with the municipality assuming all the costs of administration. The three largest municipalities have been operating under the third scheme for the past three years, which provides that the province will match, worker for worker, the professional staff employed by the municipality.

The Regulations also provide that the municipalities will be reimbursed for a proportion of the costs of categorical aid. The municipalities now assume only 20 per cent of the costs of Social Allowances, extra Tuberculosis Allowances, institutional "comforts" allowances, and non-ward foster home care. Most municipalities have taken advantage of the 50-50 arrangement for payment of medical care for recipients of any form of categorical aid. They do not contribute anything to Old Age Pensions and the \$5 cost-of-living bonus paid the pensioner, nor to Mothers' Allowances nor to Indus-

trial School treatment. Their remaining 100 per cent charges are in respect to boarding home care over and above categorical aid, and to foster home care for children who are made wards.

The response from the municipalities to the implementing of these Regulations has been on the whole gratifying. A Royal Commission is at present studying the over-all financial agreements between the province and municipalities (except for education, which has been similarly studied recently and is now generously revised),* and changes may be recommended when the Commissioner submits his report. However, the costs of social services to the local governments are small in comparison to the 1930's, and the greater number of the municipalities are reasonably satisfied with the present arrangements.

It can be said of British Columbia that the public welfare program is covering the people in every corner of the province, although even the most enthusiastic of us have to qualify that statement in respect to the seasonally and geographically isolated communities in the far north. Every known method of transportation is used however, from self-propelled snowshoes to aircraft, and the rural social worker has to have physical endurance to match. What counts, we think, is that the citizens of this province, except the very few who have chosen to live in almost total

isolation, have the same concerned help available to them in time of need.

It will be obvious from the foregoing that such a program can be effective only if there is an adequate number of properly trained staff to do the job. In British Columbia, as elsewhere, the shortage of social workers has presented an acute problem. Our established policy is to appoint trained social workers. The pace of development, however, has demanded that persons without such qualifications be recruited. We have a staff today of 121 workers, 73 of whom have university training (63 women, and 10 men), and the rest, (12 women and 38 men) have been given carefully planned In-Service Training. With 31 vacancies in sight, and rapidly increasing case-loads, it is obvious that the recruiting and training of non-professionally prepared persons must go on for some little time yet, although In-Service Training will cease when the professional ranks grow sufficiently in number.

It must be said that the alarm occasioned by this policy of employing and training non-professional workers has been greatly eased of late. The standard of performance of the In-Service trained worker has been remarkable in most instances, and they have literally saved the day in our process of growth. They were carefully recruited in the first place, and through their subsequent experience and in their training period they have developed a pro-

*See Report of the Royal Commission on Education, Province of British Columbia, 1945.

fessional sense that is highly commendable. Opportunity to take formal training will be granted them at a later time, and they are being given priority, next to returning service men, for educational leave.

All appointments, salary schedules, superannuation, holidays and retirements are governed by the Provincial Civil Service Commission, but these matters are first sieved through the office of the Assistant Director of Welfare, which makes for a clear interpretation to the Commission of the Department's particular needs and professional status. The Assistant Director thus recommends the appointment of all provincial social workers, whether to field or divisional posts, which obviously facilitates equitable promotions and makes for a greater Departmental unity.

Staff development, apart from In-Service Training, is considered an essential element in personnel practices. This program includes planning for conferences and institutes, issuing a staff bulletin for interpretive and educational purposes, library services, and of increasing importance, planning for an adequate period of orientation for all new staff members with professional training. This latter entails a minimum period of six weeks spent in a district office adjacent to Vancouver, during which, under close supervision, the worker learns the job he will eventually

do in a rural area. An evaluation is prepared by the supervisor at the conclusion of this period, which forms the basis of a continuing evaluation for purposes of advancement.

Supervision is, of course, the most important part of any staff development program. In a public agency, administration implies as well, a place of administrative authority. Expediency has made supervision by correspondence a necessity, but this year, it is planned that a beginning be made to have case work supervisors in the field to give the workers the sustained personal supervision that will enhance their services to the people. The newly installed filing systems and uniform office practices in all district offices, together with manuals of procedure, will make the administrative function of the supervisor more effective and the whole integrated plan will undoubtedly cut down the present heavy administrative costs.

Thus it would appear that the growing pains never cease. But the zest with which new developments are tackled, from the senior officials and divisional heads to the newest case worker, provides a stimulation and sense of achievement that is eventually worth all the internal effort and strain. For it is a point never lost sight of, that progress in our public welfare program means acceptable services to people in need, and the ultimate benefit that brings to our Canadian way of life.

Community Recreation

An address given recently by Ernest R. McEwen, Executive Assistant, Recreation Division, Canadian Welfare Council, to a citizens' meeting in Kingston, Ontario, called to consider the appointment of a community recreation adviser.

RECREATION, which has long been the Cinderella of community planning, is at long last coming into her own. Communities all across Canada are doing, in some measure, what you are doing here tonight—getting together to plan recreation on a community-wide basis. Our Governments on the Dominion, Provincial and Municipal levels are bringing forward recreation plans, community leaders are talking about and planning war memorial recreation centres, and an ever-increasing number of people are claiming that recreation should be equated in importance with such recognized functions as formal education, and health. This upsurge of interest in a community endeavour is very heartening, and can be one of the really worthwhile things to come out of this war. It is only right that every community should give careful thought to ways and means of turning this buoyant interest into a solid neighbourhood achievement.

Recreation—What Is It?

Before launching into the problem of what a community can do to meet its recreation needs, let us give some careful thought to what the term recreation means. It is a difficult word to define since its

meaning has such wide ramifications. Professors Chapman and Counts, of Yale University, in their text *Principles of Education*, say—"A recreational activity is a genuinely leisure activity, an activity in which one engages without thought of reward, either in this world or the next." Concerning the relationship between beneficial types of recreation and the human personality they add: "Recreation promotes a wholesome development of the capacities and functions; it prolongs the period of youth by creating the conditions necessary for both physical and mental health; it serves as a tonic to the organism by adding to the zest of living; and above all it lends color and sweetness and beauty to life. Since recreation takes place under the conditions of freedom, it provides opportunity for the manifold expression of personality, and all constraining influences being relatively absent, the self is permitted to develop according to the laws of its own being and in response to its own potentialities."

John Dewey, an educator of note, speaking of leisure time activity in life, makes this observation. "Play and art are moral necessities. They are required to

take care of the margin that exists between the total stock of impulses that demand outlet and the amount expended in regular action. They keep the balance which work cannot indefinitely maintain. They are required to introduce variety, flexibility, and sensitiveness into disposition." Here is a list indicating some of the types of leisure activities in which people engage; all of these have a measure of re-creative value.

- going to the theatre
- appreciating music
- watching athletic contest
- reading newspapers and fiction
- collecting stamps
- motoring in the country
- walking in parks
- bossing servant
- studying birds
- painting china
- window shopping
- indulging in day dreams
- writing articles
- playing games
- taking pictures
- visiting museums
- writing letters
- fishing
- playing billiards
- shooting craps
- playing the "wolf" and wolf hunting
- attending teas and dinners
- attending wild parties
- experimenting with radio
- beer drinking
- writing philosophy
- spinning theories on recreations

One could go on indefinitely adding to this list.

Not all leisure activity has the same degree of recreative value to the human personality, nor does it

all lead to a fuller and happier life. A glance at the list above will remind us that some types of leisure activity can be negative and destructive while others will tend to be positive and fulfilling. Dr. Lamb, Director of Physical Education at McGill University, in a recent address stated: "Play and recreation are double-edged swords; the wrong kind leads to delinquency and crime, the other to a healthier and a happier citizenship." May it suffice at this point to say that choice of leisure activity is extremely important to the individual in his quest for a full and happy life and in a like manner it is an important responsibility of a community to create a wholesome pattern of activity in which the individual has ample choice of the better things.

A good definition of recreation appeared in the tentative report of the Canadian Youth Commission. It reads: "Recreation is whatever recreates expended human energy, physical or spiritual. Recreation is a quality in work or in leisure, which enables the self to achieve satisfying fulfilment. A truly re-creative experience is one which goes beyond mere restoration of animal energy, towards the positive fulfilment of personality, through complete use and expression of the individual's powers and talents." With this broad definition of the term "recreation" in mind, let us examine some of the special needs that have arisen in this modern and scientific age of ours.

The Machine—And Leisure Time

There has been steady headway in the invention of labour-saving machines and devices and a corresponding reduction, but in a lesser degree, in working hours. If full employment is to be achieved, and our government has committed itself to such a policy, it is quite possible that the present trend for shorter working periods will be accelerated in order to spread the jobs around. Just what the harnessing of atomic energy is going to contribute to this end is hard to estimate. However, it is reasonable to expect that it will eliminate the need for millions of manpower hours of labour with a resulting increase in leisure time.

Another fact worthy of note is that in this day of mass production and specialization there is but little opportunity for the average workman, labourer or white-collar worker, to exercise his creative powers. The days are filled with monotonous, repetitive action with little or no opportunity for self-expression. This steady grind of meaningless action has, so we are told, a detrimental effect upon the physical and mental health of our people. Dr. L. P. Jacks, the noted British educator, in discussing the meaning of recreation in our time states:

"What is recreation? For our present purpose it means what it says. It is the *recreation* of something that gets damaged in human beings—the repair of human damage where it is repairable, and the prevention of it in the rising

generation. Of this human damage, and this threat of further damage, there is abundance in the modern world. I need only remind you of that enormous class in our massed populations which is known to medical examiners as C. What does the C class consist of? It consists of damaged humanity, and is said to include 60 per cent of the urban population, some putting it even higher. It is the most numerous class, and it breeds faster than any other—the damaged class. I would ask this question of those of my readers who are engaged in business—how long would you be able to keep out of the bankruptcy court if 60 per cent of the goods you produce had to be marked "damaged"? Obviously we are here in presence of a great danger, especially when the breeding phenomena are taken into account. That way lies the bankruptcy of civilization." He adds about the function of recreation: "When you think of recreation as the work of liberation and vitalization, then you have the essence of what it can do for human beings. The greatest service any recreation leader can hope to render to any child or adult is to lead him to the discovery of his own powers."

These are strong statements, but no stronger than they should be. Obviously it is in the best interests of society to make adequate provision for recreation in order to look after the spiritual, physical and mental well-being of its members.

Recreation's Place in Ancient Civilizations

As mentioned by the Chairman, a few months ago I was stationed in Cairo and had the opportunity of living in that part of the world for approximately a year. While there I visited many of the places of historic and cultural interest in Egypt, Palestine, Syria and Africa, and I might say that the most thrilling and stimulating experiences that I had in that area were the days spent in the Egyptian museum in Cairo. There one had the opportunity of seeing and studying the development of art, sculpture, crafts and games from the beginning of the historic period, and also to see how the leisure time of these ancient peoples was employed with its subsequent effects upon their civilization and the civilizations that followed. It is intensely interesting to see that the standard of craftsmanship and art in the days of Tut Ankhamen, 1350 B.C., was of a higher order than that of the people that now inhabit the Nile Valley. Those ancient people were creators of new designs, new ideas and new techniques, while the people that now live in these areas are imitators of the ancient, the European or American patterns, creating very little that is truly their own. This creative spirit probably reached its greatest height in the Greek civilization at a later date. The Greeks, in their finest day, gave a liberal place to recreation — recreation which not only featured the athlete, but also gave appropriate place to the artist, the sculptor and

the poet. Focus was on the creative side of the human personality, resulting in the establishment of a civilization which in many ways has hardly been surpassed even to this day.

How Does Canadian Youth Spend Its Leisure Time?

One of the Canadian Youth Commission surveys shows that youth spend its spare time for the most part in four ways, as follows:

Reading—The reading included newspapers and magazines, with special interest shown in adventure and mystery stories.

Only a small number use public libraries.

Listening to the Radio—Here the popular programs are comedy, "hot" music, and commercial dramatization.

Talking—The popular topics seemed to be sports, their work, plans for the future.

Loafing—No analysis was given of this item. It is alarming to find so very many of our youth have not learned to employ leisure time in a constructive way.

Only about one-third of our youth have an opportunity of playing on a sports team and most of these are young boys of school age. Individual sports activities present an equally barren picture. Aside from skates, no recreational equipment is possessed by the majority of youth. Less than one-third have access to tennis racquets, skis, golf clubs, camp and fishing equipment. This helps to explain why so many of our young people find nothing more to do than just loaf.

The survey also indicated that youth wants more and better facilities for physical recreation, including golf, tennis, horse-back riding, bowling, gymnasium sports, boating, swimming, etc. Four out of every ten indicated a desire to act in amateur dramatics, and about the same number would like to take up drawing and painting. While on the whole the survey reveals a very considerable measure of apathy among our youth, it also indicates that youth responds magnificently when leadership and suitable facilities are available.

Recreation in the Armed Forces

It is regrettable that we are not prepared to take the same attitude in providing recreation for our communities that we took in planning for our men and women in the Forces. The four national agencies, Y.M.C.A., Knights of Columbus, Salvation Army, Canadian Legion, in co-operation with the Department of National War Services, did a remarkable job in meeting the needs of our service personnel. Their work was carried on not only in Canadian camps, but in Labrador, Newfoundland, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Holland, North Africa, Italy, India, and Burma. No distance was too great to be covered or problem too difficult to be met. Millions of dollars were well spent on leadership and equipment, the latter including camp recreation centres, libraries, lounges, mobile cinema units, and handicraft materials. The services which were organized covered a wide range of interests including sport in all its forms, art

clubs, music appreciation, educational tours, amateur dramatics, and community singing, to mention but a few of the highlights. Our troops were provided with recreational facilities no matter where they were located. What a tremendous difference it would make to our Canadian life if our Government and all the national recreation agencies would continue to co-operate and tackle the job of providing recreation on a similar comprehensive scale throughout Canada, including both rural and urban areas. Serious effort should be made to employ the leadership that was trained during the war and also to make full use of the vast quantities of equipment purchased by the Department of National War Services. More important still, we need a carefully planned approach to this problem of providing recreation on an adequate scale throughout Canada, a plan which will put to work all available recreation resources. This was done during the war; it can be done even more effectively in time of peace if we really want it.

C.Y.C. Recommendations on Recreation

A sound approach to this whole problem is found in the recommendations of the Canadian Youth Commission Report on Recreation. This report is now at the printers and should be available at book stores in a few weeks' time. It indicates what should be done on the Federal, Provincial and Municipal levels in order to get recreation on its proper footing. It also makes specific recommendations to

private recreation agencies, churches, schools, libraries, National Film Board, National Art Gallery and others indicating the part each might play in a co-ordinated effort. It is hoped that this report will be widely read and studied so that joint planning in the solution of the problem may be possible.

Time does not permit me to deal fully with all the Canadian Youth Commission recommendations on this subject but, since you in Kingston are facing the problem of organizing and fostering recreation on a community-wide basis, I would like to read to you a few of the specific suggestions made to local governments and community leaders:

(1) "That a separate department of recreation be established by municipal governments with a full-time director, professionally qualified to give leadership in the broad field of creation. It is suggested that this should be possible in every municipality of 5,000 population and over, and that to meet the needs of smaller towns and rural areas, a county or district type of organization be set up similar to that advocated for education and health.

Responsibilities of such recreational departments should include the supervision of parks and playgrounds, the encouragement of co-operative planning among the various public institutions such as schools, libraries, museums and art galleries, and co-operation with community councils, private agencies and citizen groups in planning for total community needs.

(2) That departments of recreation, once established, move as quickly as possible to provide community facilities and equipment for recreation in

accordance with the standards suggested earlier in this report. In particular, neighbourhood playgrounds, play fields and indoor recreation centres should be provided to serve the needs of all areas of the community.

(3) That the organization of community centres be encouraged by municipal governments but that in all such projects the maximum measure of control over policy and program be left in the hands of citizen groups.

(4) That in every municipality and in the various neighbourhoods of big cities, community councils be established made up of interested citizens and representatives of various community agencies. While such councils might well be concerned with all matters relating to community betterment, one of their major functions should be the planning and development of a comprehensive recreation program. In some instances, the initiative for establishing these councils would undoubtedly be taken by the public authority; in others by a private group or agency. In either case the method of appointment should be such as to ensure flexibility and freedom in the council itself and to develop in the community a feeling of participation in whatever plans and projects are developed."

My only comment on these recommendations is that they appear to be very sound and worthy of careful consideration. The whole scheme is based on the belief that a well rounded recreation program is a fundamental need of a community.

Since one of your main purposes in meeting tonight is to consider the appointment of a recreation leader, I thought it might be fitting to read to you a comment that appeared recently in the

Syracuse Bulletin, outlining what the qualifications of a community leader should be. He should have:

The education of a college president,
The executive ability of a financier,
The humility of a deacon,
The adaptation of a chameleon,
The hope of an optimist,
The courage of a hero,
The wisdom of a serpent,
The gentleness of a dove
The patience of Job,
The grace of God, and
The persistence of the Devil.

In all seriousness, however, it should be stressed that leadership is of first-rate importance. Nothing wonderful is likely to develop from a community plan which does not provide for sound leadership. There are many community centres, churches and recreation halls in Canada which are empty and idle for most of the week because of the lack of skilled leadership. It should also be stated at this point that a community recreation director should be trained in the technique of group work in order to foster it in the broad pattern of activity. Young people should be given an opportunity to think together, plan together and act together, and also to have a chance to assume responsibility,

develop faculties of leadership and to learn the art of democratic living. John Dewey states that "The success of democracy depends on the individual's capacity for self determination and for voluntary group life". The recreation leader has a unique opportunity to encourage this type of experience among our youth, and it is therefore important that he be well equipped to handle this important aspect of his job.

To conclude my remarks let me briefly restate a few of the main points discussed:

- (1) Recreation is a basic human need and should receive the same consideration in municipal planning as that shown education and health.
- (2) There is special need for recreation in this machine age with its ever increasing leisure time.
- (3) The Canadian Youth Commission surveys reveal that our recreation pattern is very barren—particularly in rural areas, which includes a large part of Canada. We need to tackle this problem with all the enthusiasm we can muster.
- (4) Communities planning recreation programs should give major attention to the matter of obtaining qualified leaders, trained in the techniques of group work and community organization.

PREMARITAL BLOOD TESTS

P RINCE EDWARD ISLAND and Manitoba have joined with Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia in enacting premarital health examination legislation which provides for a blood test for syphilis. The Alberta and Saskatchewan Acts were proclaimed last year, while the British Columbia law, enacted in 1938, is still awaiting proclamation.

A pamphlet issued by the Health League of Canada reveals that in Canada in the first two months of 1946 there was an increase of 25 per cent in cases of syphilis and gonorrhea as compared with the same period last year.

There are no prenatal blood testing laws in existence in Canada at present. In the United States 32 States have premarital laws and 35 have prenatal laws.

The Buffalo Conference

Approximately 4500 people from the U.S.A., from Canada, and even from Mexico and South America, gathered in Buffalo from May 19th to 25th for the Seventy-Third National Conference of Social Work. To give a full report of the 180 sessions arranged would obviously be an impossible task. WELFARE is indebted to the delegates of the Toronto Neighbourhood Workers Association for the following notes and comments on the sessions which they attended, and subsequent issues will carry in full certain of the outstanding papers.

MANY social workers had the opportunity to enlarge their personal understanding of what lack of housing can mean when several hundred of the 4,500 attending the Conference were forced to sleep as far away as Fort Erie and Niagara Falls for lack of hotel accommodation in Buffalo. However, other environmental factors were favourable, with the weather clear and cool, and contrary to expectations, the food plentiful, good and reasonable in price.

Canadian social work was well represented by delegates from Montreal, from Toronto, many other Ontario centres and from Manitoba and Vancouver. In the more than 180 sessions only three Canadians participated, — Dr. Brock Chisholm, Nora Lea, and Leslie Pepperdene. Dr. Chisholm laid sobering emphasis on this moment in history and upon our share in the responsibility for deciding whether or not there shall be a third world war in the very near future. Nora Lea chaired an

important session on Unmarried Parenthood. Leslie Pepperdene, Executive Assistant, The Boys' Farm and Training School, Shawbridge, Quebec, was one of a panel discussing "The Training School looks Forward."

At the opening session, President Kenneth L. M. Pray, Dean of the Pennsylvania School of Social Work, paid fitting tribute to Harry Hopkins, "who fought so valiantly and so victoriously for every cause in which he believed, a fine public servant, a creative and inventive statesman," and to Linton B. Swift, "a philosopher, a man of ideas, with no lack of intrepid strength where the rights and interests of human beings were at stake."

President Pray struck the keynote for the Conference when he declared that "Social workers are face to face with the crucial test of their vision, courage, and competence. A social revolution that is sweeping the world is challenging them.

"Whether we are ready or not to meet this test," he said, "we ought

to be. Social work has been grappling for generations with the precise problems that are paramount in the world's life at this moment. Our own solid, sincere contribution to helping people to find a secure, stable chance of living satisfying lives in the midst of change, must embrace skilled workmanship and statesmanship."

Listening in on the sessions on Community Organization, Health and Welfare, and on the Committee Meetings on Volunteers, it was obvious that in Canada as well as in the United States there are able leaders in social statesmanship.

Both case-workers and group-workers grappled with the need for skilled workmanship. Annette Garrett, in one of the best sessions of the Conference, urged social case workers to have confidence in the unique service which they have to offer. Social case work has a core of professional knowledge, and skill, trained personnel and supervisors and a growing body of professional literature.

During the war the greatest strides in history were made in case work. Recognition of a skill concerning problems not economic came from outside the profession. Much of the expansion of case work service in war-time developed under the name of counselling, in selective service, in day nurseries, in army centres, in industry and in the Red Cross. Counselling does not necessarily imply a high quality of case work. A new name will not alter the need to improve our skill and our interpretation. Miss Garrett em-

phasized the need to take advantage of these quantitative gains with quality of service. She, with Florence Hollis, threw out a note of warning against short cuts in service or in training in Schools of Social Work. There is a universal need for broad basic training as opposed to detailed training for specialization. Too great emphasis on specialization could endanger the whole field of social case work, she felt.

Down to earth comments were made concerning the root of our competence. Every case worker must master skill in interviewing, the constructive use of the worker-client relationship, an understanding of human behaviour. All case workers must be aware of the necessity for emotional security in themselves. Miss Garrett finds too often that case records are searched in vain for the placement of the client's problem. Pages of records contain little upon which to make a diagnosis. "There must be understanding before doing."

All the excellent papers on case work were couched in the simplest language, with a complete absence of involved technical terminology, or what lay people call "social work jargon."

Miss Garrett and others at the Conference forced the case worker to face the fact that she is not popular in the community, especially in highly industrialized centres. This antagonism is a carry-over from experiences in the depression and private agency staff members must share the responsibility for this with public

welfare workers. Case workers are still thought of as "snoopers" who like "to push people around!" Some optimism is felt over the disappearance of this attitude in a couple of generations, and it may well be public welfare workers who will play a big part in this. It was concluded also that as rounded programs in social security are developed, people economically secure will, as in the war years, accept the need for help with emotional problems. Case workers have too long described their service as one for people very different to themselves, rather than as a service for people like themselves. "The only sure way to gain recognition of our case work service is sustained professional competence."

A special program was arranged by request to consider the problem of alcoholism, because of the great increase in the number of clients asking for help from case workers with this problem. It was indeed a worth while opportunity to secure information at first-hand from such an authority as Seldon D. Bacon, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Yale, but more widely known to social work as the Chairman of the Connecticut Commission on Alcoholism.

In outlining the problem, Dr. Bacon pointed out that alcoholism is not caused by alcohol but because the alcoholic is unable to face the problems of life without it, he drinks because he must. Dr. Bacon stressed the need to educate public opinion to the realization that the alcoholic is a sick person

and alcoholism is a curable disease. Different therapies are required, dependent on the background, but these do not include preaching or jail. Ultra-modern treatment was described by Dr. Joseph Thiman, Medical Director, Washingtonian Hospital, Boston. The report on the findings of this Commission and of the Studies on Alcoholism at Yale is a must for every social work library.

A second special program concentrated on the veteran. General Omar Bradley, now Administrator, Veterans' Affairs, Washington, D.C., has brought to this new Department that breadth of vision which characterized him as commander of armies. "Formerly the nation aided only in the field of the wounded," he said, "now there is recognition of social disability as well. The veteran needs help back to civilian life." General Bradley emphasized, for the benefit of the case worker, that the veteran is not helpless though he is in need. It must be remembered that he has not lost those qualities which helped him to win the war. He needs direction to make use of these qualities for success in civilian life.

Hearing Dr. Harry Margolis, of Pittsburgh, discuss the psychosomatic approach to the study and treatment of illness will not develop greater understanding in dealing with "sick" people but will light up future reading on this important subject. Dr. Sanford Bates, Commissioner, Department of Institutions and Agencies of New Jersey, by his able interpretation

stirred the imagination of Canadians with the chance which may yet be theirs to share in the scientific, humane handling of the problem of the adult delinquent and his family.

Exchange of experience with American social workers shows that the partnership of social work and labour has proven to be a useful tool for more effective social action and for making our case work and group work services more easily and more adequately available to workers in industry. Participation with Chests in fund-raising by organized labour has been reflected in an increase in the number of representatives of labour on boards of social agencies. Before the war in the United States there were 200 representatives on such Boards, and today there are 2,000. Nat Klein, Eastern Regional National Director, C.I.O., feels that such representatives should be chosen by the workers in industry themselves.

Since Toronto is experimenting with counselling under union auspices, it was valuable to learn that this type of service has resulted in more referrals to social agencies and in more referrals before problems become chronic. In the long view, increased understanding of case work and of social work in general should be a fundamental gain.

There was quite a group of labour representatives at the Conference, some apparently as observers, but a large number participating in the program.

The discussions on public welfare were very stimulating. Relief administrators are showing vision and imagination in defining the future role of public welfare departments.

At the opening session on Group Work, G. Ott Romney, Director for Recreation and Clubs of the American Red Cross, gave all group workers the challenge of increased leisure resulting from the 35 hour week. Unless imaginative creative activities under skilled resourceful leaders is provided with a pooling of resources and facilities, we may "become materialized robots or leisure time illiterates!"

Delegates poured into the meeting on "Lay Participation in Health and Welfare Planning," where Gertrude Wilson was Chairman. Eduard C. Lindeman, in no uncertain terms placed the responsibility squarely on the shoulders of public health and welfare and the private agency for harnessing in peacetime, the tremendous wartime volunteer service of the citizens of America. Failure to do so will be a betrayal of democracy. As professional social work improves, the need for volunteers increases he feels. "The day of professionalism is done. Social work is about to become a people's movement." In the fields of public and private welfare, the leadership of the citizens is a necessity.

New York City is experimenting with Citizens' Bureaux in an effort to discover what goes on in volunteer groups now functioning in

their own neighbourhoods, and to help other people to find useful volunteer service.

In the near future schools of social work will be called on to give training courses for volunteers, not "watered-down" professional courses, but courses with a different goal, content and method.

An outstanding example of the intelligent imaginative use of volunteers was given by Gladys Rideout, Director, Volunteer Department, The Travellers' Aid Society, Chicago.

The picture which B. E. Astbury, O.B.E., drew so undramatically but so poignantly of Great Britain's

post-war social problems and plans will long be remembered by Canadians and Americans, and the same audience was deeply stirred by the vivid picturization of China's tragedy, as portrayed by Donald Howard of UNRRA. By comparison social problems on this continent seem simple and the resources to deal with them unlimited.

The one great opportunity a national conference provides is the opportunity to measure our own problems, our own competence, our own objectives against the problems, the competence, the objectives of others, in a great friendly progressive comradeship.

MERGERS OF SOCIAL AGENCIES

THOSE interested in this question will find much valuable material in the *Wells Report: A Community Self-Study in the Organization of Local Child Care Services*, a Cleveland study presented to the section on Community Organization and Planning of the National Conference of Social Work at Buffalo, a copy of which is now in the Canadian Welfare Council library.

A committee composed in the main of lay people with the aid of professional personnel from non-participating agencies spent considerable time, first in determining whether the community wished to have a study of its child care services, and then in collecting information locally and comparing data from other communities. It was truly a self-study and those taking part in it have agreed that it is "wholesome for a local group to wrestle with its own problems," and more healthy for it to face difficulties than to run away from them or to take shelter behind the report of an outsider.

In conclusion, says the study, "the result is an example of how the process of community planning is progressively developed layer by layer," and that "difficult problems in community organization can be solved if there is a genuine desire of the people closely identified with the problems to co-operate."

La Protection de l'Enfance en Ontario

EN terre d'Amérique, les enfants orphelins et abandonnés ont toujours trouvé refuge dans nos admirables institutions religieuses. Il n'en reste pas moins que la *protection légale* de l'enfance au Canada, aux Etats-Unis, en Angleterre a *suivi* le mouvement pour la protection des animaux. Ce n'est pas là une chose dont nous ayons à nous enorgueillir; cependant, tels sont les faits.

Il y avait une bonne dame à New-York, Mme Wheeler, qui, un beau jour au cours de l'année 1880, entendit parler d'une pauvre femme qui se mourait de tuberculose dans un taudis. Elle s'en fut la visiter. Mais lorsqu'elle s'approcha du lit de la malade, celle-ci lui dit: "Vous ne pouvez rien faire pour moi; il est trop tard. Voyez plutôt ce pauvre petit bonhomme qui loge de l'autre côté du corridor et qui a été battu sans merci par ses parents qui étaient sous l'influence de la boisson". Mme Wheeler alla visiter l'enfant et le trouva si malheureux et si cruellement battu qu'elle parcourut la ville de New-York en tous sens pour tâcher d'amener les parents devant la justice. Elle visita les membres du clergé, les avocats, les tribunaux et elle découvrit qu'aucune loi d'état ou aucun arrêté municipal n'existaient permettant de poursuivre des parents coupables de cruauté envers leurs enfants. On aurait pu en dire autant du Canada. Enfin,

Mme Wheeler se rendit chez le président de la société pour la prévention de la cruauté aux animaux, et ce monsieur qui était aussi avocat s'intéressa à sa cause et ils décidèrent de porter plainte et tenter d'obtenir justice, sous l'accusation suivante: "Cruauté à un animal humain". Les parents furent trouvés coupables et ce cas extraordinaire souleva la sympathie et l'intérêt publics. Ainsi débute le mouvement en faveur de lois et d'institutions destinées à protéger les enfants aux Etats-Unis et, par la suite, en Grande-Bretagne et au Canada.

Ce fut à Toronto qu'on prit l'initiative d'une loi destinée à protéger l'enfant même contre ses propres parents, de créer un refuge pour les enfants abandonnés tout comme d'établir des règlements pour empêcher que des centaines de petits garçons et de petites filles vendent des papiers ou quêtent de porte en porte. Un reporter du *Toronto Globe*, M. J. J. Kelso, en 1891, devait devenir le père de la Société de l'aide à l'enfance de Toronto, la première qui fut organisée au Canada. Cette société existait depuis deux ans, quand, en 1893, l'honorable John Gibson, secrétaire provincial, présenta à la législature le "Children's Protec-

*La substance de cet article est puisé dans l'opusculo publié au début de 1940 par l'Association des Sociétés de l'Aide à l'Enfance d'Ontario, et qui s'intitule "The Citizen of Tomorrow".

tion Act of Ontario", qui devait devenir la pierre angulaire de tout ce qui existe en Ontario aujourd'hui pour la protection de l'enfance. Il est intéressant de noter que l'intention originale de la loi de Sir John Gibson correspond exactement à la pensée actuelle du service social en faveur de l'enfance abandonnée. M. Adam Brown, de Hamilton, disait de la loi de Sir John Gibson, en 1894: "Le premier principe de la Loi de protection de l'enfance est *l'amélioration* du foyer". Il ne faut perdre de vue que c'est là un point capital dans l'organisation d'une Société d'aide à l'enfance. M. Brown insistait également sur le caractère non gouvernemental de la société: "I have always felt that this should not be allowed to become an ordinary governmental department of administration—that it should be the result of philanthropic effort in localities; that the work should be carried on for the love of the work by the good men and women in the various communities where this act is applied". Si une Société d'aide à l'enfance est protégée par le gouvernement et si elle est chargée de la mise à l'exécution de certaines lois visant la protection de l'enfance dans un secteur donné, elle demeure une *œuvre privée* dont est responsable un conseil d'administration formé de citoyens de la région où elle opère.

La S.A.E. a donc certains pouvoirs légaux. Ils tirent tout d'abord leur origine du droit de suppléance qu'a l'Etat si les parents faillissent à leurs devoirs et négligent gravement de voir au bien-être physique,

intellectuel et moral de leurs enfants. Est-ce donc à dire que la Société a droit d'enlever des enfants à leurs parents? Oui, mais pour cela elle doit prouver que les parents sont absolument incomptents et inaptes à l'éducation et au soin de leurs enfants. Mais, la S.A.E. n'en vient à une telle décision *qu'en dernier ressort*. Elle n'a pas à cœur de multiplier les pupilles qui temporairement ou en permanence passent sous ces soins. Elle s'efforce surtout de se tenir à l'affût des problèmes sociaux qui menacent les familles. Elle préfère de beaucoup offrir ses services dans le domaine de la *prévention*, et cela dans l'intérêt des enfants tout d'abord, puis secondement, dans le but d'éviter des dépenses inutiles au contribuable.

Le "Unmarried Parents Act" oblige la S.A.E. à protéger tout enfant illégitime et de jouer à son égard le rôle de parent, si la protection de ses parents naturels lui fait défaut, et cela jusqu'au jour où des parents adoptifs en prendront charge. Signalons également le travail de réhabilitation que les auxiliaires sociaux font auprès des parents non mariés.

A la S.A.E. revient la responsabilité de protéger les intérêts de l'enfant adopté et des parents adoptifs quand la question d'adoption légale se pose. Avant de recommander un enfant pour adoption, elle se doit d'étudier avec soin les antécédents de ses parents, leur histoire, leur affiliation religieuse. L'étude du développement personnel de l'enfant a aussi son importance. Elle n'omet

point de considérer avec beaucoup d'attention non seulement la réputation des parents adoptifs, mais aussi leur personnalité, leur éducation, leurs intérêts, leur religion, leur âge et la localité qu'ils habitent.

Il va de soi qu'une Société de l'aide à l'enfance a des relations étroites avec les Cours juvéniles et familiales et plus d'un jeune délinquant, au lieu d'être envoyé à une école de réforme, est remis aux soins de la S.A.E. pendant sa période de liberté surveillée. Des auxiliaires sociaux sympathiques, compétents dans la psychologie de l'enfance, s'occupent de lui et le placent dans un foyer nourricier

choisi spécialement pour ces cas. La S.A.E. collabore avec les institutions pour enfants qui se trouvent dans son territoire. Ses fonds lui viennent tout d'abord de source privée, (soit qu'elle organise elle-même sa campagne de souscription ou qu'elle soit membre d'une fédération des œuvres de charité); elle reçoit également des fonds de l'assistance publique.

C'est une organisation très démocratique que la Société de l'aide à l'enfance. Elle ne saurait fonctionner avec efficacité que si elle reçoit l'appui des citoyens; ses services sont à la hauteur des exigences et de l'esprit social de la population qu'elle dessert.

FRENCH CHESTS ORGANIZE

ON APRIL 12th, the first meeting was held in Montreal of representatives of French Community Chests. Five cities were represented and Mr. Adalbert Trudel, Public Relations Officer of the Federation of French Catholic Charities, Montreal, was chosen Chairman of a committee which will be an integral part of the Community Chests and Councils Division of the Canadian Welfare Council. Mr. Cyrille Felteau, of the Financial Services of the Central Council of Social Agencies, Quebec City, was named Vice-Chairman, with Mr. Francois Chevalier, Manager of Hull Federation of Charities, to act as liaison officer between the Community Chests and Councils Division and the French committee.

Miss Marie Hamel, Executive Assistant of the Division of French Speaking Services of the Canadian Welfare Council, is Secretary of the Committee.

FRENCH-SPEAKING DIVISION, CANADIAN WELFARE COUNCIL

MEMBERS of the Canadian Welfare Council's French-Speaking Division met in Three Rivers on April 27 to review the Division's activities. Members attended from Montreal, Quebec City, Three Rivers, Shawinigan Falls, Sherbrooke, Hull and Lachine.

The outcome of the meeting was that local groups will be organized in these various areas for the purpose of studying social welfare programs related to their community and the Province of Quebec as a whole.

Handicrafts in Canada

KATHLEEN H. MOSS,
National Gallery, Ottawa

THE arts teach us how to live. Nearly a hundred years ago John Ruskin and William Morris were condemning machine-made products which stifle the creative impulse. Today we are ready to acknowledge that the machine must have its place, but that, good or bad, the machine-made product must first be designed by hand, and that a conscious effort on the part of a craftsman will produce an intrinsically beautiful article.

In this rather difficult era, handicrafts may become very important. They can supply specialized workers to form a nucleus of industry and keep the population settled, happy and prosperous. Long periods of idleness (which, even the most optimistic admit, must come periodically in an industrial world) ruin people mentally and spiritually, if not bodily. Social measures and relief in the form of food or clothing provide very little; a man must be employed, and such employment awaits everyone who cares to carve a piece of wood, weave baskets and cloth, or even to knit. Handicrafts are of lasting benefit to the home and family. Social authorities agree that the child who expends his energies creatively has little desire to work destructively. Dr. Ivan H. Crowell, writing in *Handcrafts*, October, 1945, has stressed the importance of creative craft work

in the home as a bond between children and parents. Handicrafts appeal to all ages, and all ages can be equally skilled. The result is a common family interest, developing family and individual personalities, and a considerably increased family income.

The urge to create with one's hands is fundamental. A miner at a Handicrafts Conference in April, 1942,* demonstrated that the workingman, both as an individual and in his community life, has the ability and the desire to participate in productive cultural activities. A glance at the charm and variety of the work of the relatively untutored peoples of the past shows that the power to create is not confined to the student of the arts. Naturally amateurs cannot hope to equal skilled craftsmen but they will find their work enriching to the community and a pleasure to themselves. The production of such articles not only affords the artist a creative outlet, but its appearance raises the standard of goods on the market.

The many races settling in Canada brought with them centuries-old handicraft knowledge. Native Indian traditions of dyeing, painting and carving mixed with Scotch weaving and rugs, French woodwork, metalwork, leatherwork and homespun and, latterly,

*See *Maritime Art*, II 5.

beautiful embroideries from the interior of Europe. Handicrafts have, to some extent, been a part of every Canadian home, more especially in rural districts where many women sew their children's clothes, knit all types of garments and accessories, and do a certain amount of decorative needlework. However, it is only recently that there has been much general enthusiasm for what was once so large a part of daily life.

The first world war gave an impetus to a reviving interest in handicrafts. Occupational therapists used weaving and other manual tasks as treatment in hospitals. Again in recent years such work was done in rehabilitation centres. Disabled veterans found a new joy in producing things of beauty with their hands. Instructed very often by well-known craftsmen, or by trained therapists, they are carrying back to private life an appreciation of sound workmanship, good design and the qualities of strength, vigour, and delicacy.

A few years ago Quebec found herself in a peculiar position. With a population which was, to a large extent, devoted to the land, she saw that her people were finding it more and more difficult to keep busy. The question arose as to how to restore the dignity and nobility of rural life and provide employment during the long winter months and for those whom the land could not keep busy. In the past the need had been supplied by the hand skills brought

over from France in the earliest days of Canadian settlement. The Grey nuns, the Ursulines and the Nursing Sisters of the Hotel Dieu at Quebec, had taught embroidery and had exchanged knowledge with the Indians. Hand skills—wood-carving, pottery, weaving, leather-work, silverwork, and so on—were popular for nearly two centuries and had been encouraged by the Church. Where were they now? The advent of easily-obtained machine-made goods had seemingly destroyed the need for hand-made articles.

In 1931 the Quebec government, co-operating with the Exhibition Committee of the Canadian Handicrafts Guild, opened a Department of Handicrafts. In a few years they had discovered the few remaining craftsmen who remembered the old methods, and had set up instruction centres, and the first handicrafts school in Canada. Co-operation came from all sides, more especially from the Canadian Handicrafts Guild, Les Amis de l'Art Paysan, les Artistes et Artisans de St. Hilaire, the Schools of Fine Arts, the Technical Schools, and the transportation companies. The provincial government set aside \$20,000 a year for the training and encouragement of artists and craftsmen.

The results have been almost miraculous, especially in the Circles of Farm Women. Recently, 5,379 members of this organization spinning, and 4,939 weaving, made \$14,000 worth of linen, 10% of which was for sale; the rest went

into home furnishings which would otherwise have had to be purchased at higher prices and with less beauty. The Quebec home industries have thus found a source of income in time formerly wasted. Leaders circulate to community centres, home economics are taught in the schools, in colonization sections and institutions. Where there were virtually none in 1930, there are now some sixty thousand looms, and one hundred thousand spinning wheels in the province turning out catalogue and woollens. The 800 Circles of Farm Women have over 45,000 members, and there are 110 Women's Institutes. Wool and flax grown on the farms and processed by the farmers make the tufted spreads for which the province is famous. Sometimes the wool is carded by machine and woven on a simple hand loom. Woodwork, wrought iron, pottery, wooden toys and furniture are also turned out. Quebec has become a famous centre for craft work.

The example of Quebec has been taken up and adapted by Nova Scotia, where the problems of the fishing villages are somewhat similar. The potentialities for a thriving home industry were there, for it was from the Maritimes that the hooked rug tradition spread through the rest of Canada in the nineteenth century. As in Quebec, the sure taste of the old tradition became confused with the coming of machine-made goods, but enthusiasm for good design is once more apparent.

In this province the impetus for

a handicrafts group came from the people themselves as a natural reaction to war-time ennui and bad design, coupled with the desire to revive the old crafts and put Nova Scotia in the field. In April, 1942, a Handicrafts Conference was held at St. Francis Xavier University at which some very important papers were presented—the objectives of a handicrafts movement, handicrafts for commercial purposes, the possibilities and dangers, etc. The conference was attended by eighty representatives and reports were given which revealed that in 1941 \$17,000 was made through rug sales. Mr. Beriau, of the Province of Quebec, told of the remarkable work accomplished there in placing native crafts on a sound economic and artistic basis, and the result was that a committee was appointed to present the provincial government with an outline for a handicrafts program. The Handicrafts and Home Industries Division of the Department of Industry and Publicity in the Province of Nova Scotia have set up a carefully integrated system for Nova Scotia crafts. A quarterly bulletin, *Handicrafts*, keeps workers up-to-date on methods of work, production and distribution. Scholarships are offered to applicants for instructorship with the Department. In April, 1945, a prize was offered for the best design for a Nova Scotia quilt. A library service provides books and pamphlets and gives information as to where other new publications may be purchased. St. Francis Xavier University uses handicrafts largely in

their adult education program, while the Annapolis Royal Fireside Industry provides a co-operative market for hooked rugs of which Cape Breton now produces some of the finest in the world. The province has begun a campaign to buy Nova Scotia products, and has also succeeded in finding a market in other provinces and abroad.

Interest in handicrafts is not so lively elsewhere in Canada, despite the brief presented to Parliament in May, 1944, but in the Prairie provinces there has been considerable preservation of European crafts and embroidery, leathercraft and rugs, while the West coast is more concerned with native Indian work. Ontario is as yet far behind, with an annual grant of only \$50,000 for music and art, including work in schools and \$27,000 to the Ontario College of Art.

The teaching of several universities and schools, and the appearance of co-operatives and guilds are raising the standards of skill and design. One or two commercial firms have interested themselves in handicrafts, and their backing has proved extremely helpful. One of the best-known assisting organizations is the Canadian Handicrafts Guild, a non-profit-making enterprise which led the way in the revival of interest in crafts. Towards the beginning of the century a movement began in Montreal for the exhibition and selling of handicrafts which in 1906 was incorporated as the Canadian Handicrafts Guild. By 1931, \$838,428 had been put in the hands of craftworkers through the selling

organization. Exhibitions have been sent all over Canada and to foreign countries. Schools of instruction and broadcast talks are part of the program. In 1938 the Guild became associated with the Canadian Association for Adult Education, and since that time not even the difficult years of the war have prevented a continued interest and pressure in favour of Canadian crafts. The Guild in one year recently paid to workers in an industry in Cape Breton \$4,400, in a shop representing part of a New Brunswick county \$4,350, in a shop in Montreal \$55,902, and in one in Toronto \$18,000.

There is as yet little conception of the importance of handicrafts to the people of Canada. Without a national plan there are many drawbacks, but in the meantime several schemes have been suggested.

Dr. Crowell has advocated* that a broad program of handicrafts be instituted in the schools to raise the standards of taste, to provide relaxation (and hence better marks for the students), to suggest future employment, and to train careful workers for either home or industrial work.

Planned decoration for housing schemes is another medium which might make Canadians design-conscious. Large-scale demonstrations of the co-operation of artist and architect, of better design in arts and crafts and machine-made goods, might be an encouragement to seek out the surroundings that best suit one's personality.

**Handcrafts*, July 1945.

However, if we are to establish handicrafts on a commercial basis, and still keep the important artistic contribution, we must be very careful. To make a successful business, we should have organized work centres with responsible persons in charge and wages for the workers. The government is encouraging returned men in private enterprise but little support has been given to the artisans. The inability to get teachers is a drawback, but in these men trained in the crafts and anxious to apply their skill, we have a potential source. Other teachers are not lacking. The war has brought us refugees possessing great facility. There are at least six Czechoslovakian glass blowers, only two of whom are employed as such, and merely in mechanical glass-blowing; Jan Petrik of Budapest is making floral chinaware and training workers in that trade. And we have the established specialists—the rug-makers of Quebec and the Maritimes, the metalworkers like Harold Stacey of Toronto, or C. P. Peterson of Montreal, "The Iron Workers" of Toronto, the Deichmanns and their fine pottery, Karen Bulow and her shop of weavers, the Johns, glass-blowers in Toronto, and the fine furniture builders like Gibbards or Ridpaths. These people, with a little backing, could make Canada a world centre of fine skills.

The initial outlay for most craft work is small. If materials cannot be grown or made at home, they are usually fairly simple. Weavers must procure a loom, but that soon

pays for itself; even pottery is not beyond the average craftworker, for the Deichmanns have demonstrated an inexpensive, although not too permanent kiln. The returns from this small outlay can be very gratifying. Dr. Crowell cites the example of the students at Macdonald College who can earn \$100 a year working one hour a day at handicrafts. Mr. Russell, speaking to the House of Commons Special Committee on Reconstruction and Re-establishment, gave an example of a family which kept a record of articles made for use in the home, and for gifts. The net total amount not required to be spent for ready-made articles for these purposes amounted to \$173.

There is a growing body of literature available for those who are interested. The province of Nova Scotia's *Handcrafts* gives invaluable aid; there is also a series of pamphlets from McGill University and Macdonald College; the Quebec and Ontario governments supply literature; the Dominion Department of Mines and Resources puts out pamphlets for the low price of 25c; the magazines *Canadian Art* and *The Canadian Review of Music and Art* both have devoted much space to the problems.

At present we are fortunate in having a large and wealthy market to the south. The Americans are very much aware of handicrafts of which they imported \$50,000,000 worth a year before the war. Quebec has taken some advantage of this market, but not to the same

extent as, for instance, Mexico, with her silver and internationally known glass. It is not too late for Canada to take an important place while the world market is still closed. Articles of high quality in leather, wood, metal, pottery, weaving and plastics are in demand. Furthermore, if we do not take advantage of present conditions, not only shall we lose a good market, but many of our skilled workers are going to go where there is always money to back enterprise—the United States.

The great danger of the movement lies in "arty-craftiness" and the pitfalls of a fashionable cult. The intrinsic value of handicrafts lies, not in the vogue of the moment, but in the fact that the quality is good. It should be the privilege of handicraft workers to show people that even without great riches one may have beauty in the home. The demand should be for form and quality, not for "souvenirs", or worse, "hand-made" marks.

Juvenile Crime Convictions Decrease 10 per cent

JUVENILES convicted of crimes during the year ending September 30, 1945 numbered 8,909, a decrease of 10 per cent from the total of 9,917 in 1944, according to preliminary figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and released in their May 18 *Weekly Bulletin*. This was the third successive year in which the number of juvenile crime convictions has declined since it reached the highest recorded figure of 11,758 in 1942. Decreases were shown in the number of convictions for both major and minor offences. Nevertheless, juvenile crime convictions in 1945 were still 17 per cent above the level in 1939. Decreases were recorded in all provinces except Prince Edward Island and British Columbia in 1945 as compared with 1944.

Theft and burglary, which account for approximately 80 per cent of major juvenile delinquencies, both showed marked decreases in 1945 compared with 1944. Theft convictions decreased from 3,380 in 1944 to 2,944 in 1945, a drop of 13 per cent. Burglary convictions decreased from 1,702 in 1944 to 1,494 in 1945, a drop of 12 per cent.

Another interesting aspect of the figures is that the number of juvenile convictions for minor offences has

varied much more during the war years than the number of convictions for major offences. In 1942, the number of convictions for minor offences had increased 86 per cent from the number in 1939, whereas the number for major offences had increased 38 per cent. Likewise, the number of convictions for minor offences in 1945 fell 35 per cent from the 1942 peak, while the number for major offences fell only 17 per cent. Juvenile convictions for major offences now constitute about 65 per cent of the total, the same as in 1939.

To sum up, during the first years of the war, the number of juvenile crime convictions increased at an alarming rate; it was more than 50 per cent greater in 1942 than in 1939. Since then, the number has steadily declined, but it is still substantially above the pre-war level. No figures are yet available for the last months of 1945 and the early months of 1946.

Juvenile Crime Convictions

	Number of Convictions		
	Major	Minor	Total
1939.....	5,018	2,595	7,613
1940.....	5,298	3,133	8,431
1941.....	6,204	4,106	10,310
1942.....	6,920	4,838	11,758
1943.....	6,494	3,802	10,296
1944.....	6,529	3,388	9,917
1945.....	5,758	3,151	8,909

Integrating Social Services

WHEN we consider the question of co-ordinating various welfare services so as to make them more effective and more accessible, very real analogy is possible between the problems of social welfare agencies and those engaged in health services. The Gunn-Platt Report* indicates one of them with considerable accuracy when it says: "Today when the medical profession has just about abandoned the effort to cure people by applying specific remedies to their various 'symptoms' and has learned to think of the organism as a whole, the operation of many specialized health agencies produces essentially the effect of dealing with isolated aches and troubles rather than with the whole person, to say nothing of the whole public".

One problem often discussed at the present time points up the whole question, namely, how to get the veteran and the social services which he needs into a worthwhile relationship as quickly and as simply as possible. That goodwill is not enough has been amply shown in the past few years. The "run-around" is a hard word and if accurately used describes a callousness that seldom exists. Its use at all, after the thought that has undoubtedly been put into this very difficulty does indicate some failure in clear thinking about the

needs of the applicant in relation to the functions of the agencies in his community.

Part of the trouble lies in the need for adequate distribution of elementary information as to the identity, address and more obvious activities of the existing agencies. There is more to it than that though, as anyone knows who has tried to differentiate between family and child welfare organizations for a puzzled member of the general public intent only on referring a family in trouble. The general confusion about agency relationships came out clearly in one such episode when the interested neighbour remarked in annoyed tones, "That case is so bad I'd think you'd all be working on it".

We all know what it is to go miserably from one office to another attempting to secure the specialized medical and dental services which have been taken for granted for a number of years. It is a depressing business but no more so than that which often confronts the person with social problems who may fall between agencies genuinely anxious to give help, but, due to a somewhat crystallized conception of their functions, uncertain as to which agency should assist him. If the solution of his difficulties includes health and relief problems, he may also be trying to keep assorted and inconvenient clinic dates in between

**Voluntary Health Agencies*, by Selskar M. Gunn and Philip S. Platt. Reviewed in January, 1946 *WELFARE*.

trips to the provincial and municipal relief offices. If he is sufficiently able-bodied he is probably also keeping the odd appointment at his National Employment Service office. No wonder the poor soul turns up somewhere on Friday at 2.00 p.m. instead of Thursday at 9.00 a.m.

Something else besides an avalanche of unco-ordinated community services may happen to the person in need. He himself can get split up into departments and the treatment given to his problems may quite overlook their relationship to him as a person and the importance of his feeling about them. We have not entirely escaped from the urge to "tick" problems noted and services rendered, month after month on a statistical card, as the easiest method of pinning down on paper the most puzzling thing, a human personality. Such statistical devices have their place as an interpretive tool but we can accept too blindly the point of view that "the individual has been fractionated into a growing number of highly specialized parts, functions, defects, problems and needs".

The complexity of community organization varies greatly from one place to another. However, one can safely say that no community has fully solved the question of how to avoid a certain amount of duplication, or ensure that its services shall be completely adequate to its needs. Traditional functions in some cases, "vested interests" delaying progress in others, as well as lack of planning leadership in

agencies or councils, together with inadequate funds and insufficient interpretation, are either jointly, or severally, the villains of the piece. That planning costs money has been recognized by The Rockefeller Foundation which has made a grant of \$78,500 to The National Health Council, a clearing house in the United States, so that it may give leadership in co-ordinating health services as suggested in the Gunn-Platt report.

The complexity of the client, over-emphasized or lost sight of, often suffers at the hands of the social worker whose imagination and sensitivity have been anaesthetized by overwork and an uneasy feeling that the case work concepts of her student days are more like will-o-the-wisps than familiar and comforting reality. This is not a new problem, for either a too well-developed conviction about the virtues of specialization, or an over-simplification of the client's problems into tidy categories have been with us ever since we discovered psychiatry. "Assembling Jimmie", as a bright social worker once called it, is a necessary process if he is to make the best use of the help we can offer.

This darker side of what the publicity people describe as "man meets trouble, man meets social agency, man gets out of trouble" has been emphasized in order to underline the remedy more sharply. To a greater or less extent, the idea of orchestrating the activities of social agencies by Councils of Social Agencies or Community Councils has been accepted. How-

ever "patriotism" and isolationism" can still be confused and the personal satisfactions of an agency's supporters are hard to channel into new fields. One board member viewed the metamorphosis of an orphanage into a community house with the sad statement, "Now I won't be able to play ball with the boys on Saturday afternoon".

In the field of family and child welfare increasing emphasis is being put on the things they have in common rather than on their differences. Family agencies have embraced services related to their functions, such as a Visiting Home-maker Service, or diminished the confusion in assigning emergency housing by undertaking the filtering of applicants. Lending a case worker to give counselling services to the clientele of a community centre is another example of this developing impulse towards a real co-ordination of services.

Certain rapprochements of this type take place frequently between professional staff if they are not too closely identified with their agencies, a hazard we all have to take into account. Lay boards are equally prone to this difficulty, especially as their sense of proprietorship may have become second nature due to over-long terms of service on boards and committees.

The flexibility of organization and the fullest use of specialized services which would solve our

problem can be achieved only by professional and lay team-work, not by either group alone. If this group can work together with the problems of the people in mind, rather than with an emphasis on idealized blueprints, the results are much better. The growth that goes on in an active and representative Citizens' Rehabilitation Committee is an example of this.

The more school training can convey to the beginning worker the relation of specialized fields to community organization the better. For the mature worker, still rooted to some extent in the isolationist attitudes of the past, participation in conferences, institutes and other forms of professional stimulation is the most effective answer, along with delegation of committee responsibilities to staff members of all ages wherever feasible.

Team-work, mutual understanding and a willingness to make sacrifices for the common good are the answer to the problems. We used global strategy to win the war and it should not be too difficult to harness the wealth of specialized services and the lay and professional groups behind them into an orchestra that will play symphonies, not solos. Then people won't be confused by "57 varieties" of welfare services. The word "run-around" will die out of our vocabulary and the important person, the client, will not be lost in the shuffle.

K.M.J.

British Family Allowances

ON AUGUST 6, 1946, two and a half million mothers in Britain will be entitled to claim an allowance of five shillings a week, in respect of four and a half million children. On that day, the Family Allowances Act, passed by Britain's Parliament in June, 1945, will come into operation.

The Act, in its essentials, lays down that every family in Britain, regardless of its financial circumstances, is entitled to receive a weekly allowance of five shillings for each child under the school leaving age, with the exception of the first or only child. It is estimated that the cost to the country of these allowances will be in the neighborhood of £57 million (\$228 million) a year, plus about £2 million (\$8 million) a year for the cost of administering the scheme. The whole burden will be borne by the Exchequer, and not, like benefits payable under other schemes of social insurance, such as Unemployment or National Health Insurance, by Britain's Insurance Fund, and by contributions paid by employer and employee. In other words, it is a charge on the British taxpayer.

Extending School Services

Further assistance to families will be given when the school meals and milk services, already in existence, are fully developed. It is proposed to extend these services and to make them available free to all children attending schools receiving State grants. The cost to the Exchequer of these services will be about £60 million (\$240 million) a year.

The basic idea behind the payment of allowances is that they should benefit the family as a whole, and not that the sum of five shillings should be

spent weekly solely on behalf of the child in respect of whom the allowance is paid. A child, for the purposes of the Act, is defined as one "who is under the upper limit of the compulsory school age, or one over that age, who is undergoing full-time instruction in school, or is an apprentice, until the 31st of July after his sixteenth birthday".

This means, for instance, that if there are four children in a family, aged 17, 13, 11 and 9, no account will be taken of the seventeen-year-old, and there will remain *three* qualified children, for whom two allowances will be payable. The *first* child does not thus mean the first-born; it means the eldest child under the age limit, and as such is not eligible for an allowance. Allowances will be paid for the children aged 11 and 9, but should be used to benefit the family. When the thirteen-year old reaches the age limit, the number of qualified children will be reduced to two, and only one allowances will be payable.

Families Eligible

Every family in Britain, provided the husband is a British subject, born in the United Kingdom, is automatically entitled to allowances for its children who are qualified. But the Minister of National Insurance, who is responsible for administering the Act, is empowered to extend the scheme to benefit other families living in Britain, whatever their nationality. For example, if a London-born woman is married to a man born in South Africa, and the family has settled in Britain, they will qualify for allowances. British subjects born outside the United Kingdom, i.e., an Australian family, would qualify for allowances after one year's

residence in Britain. An American family would become eligible for allowances after living three years in Britain. British women who have lost their nationality through marriage to aliens, will qualify for allowances as though they were still British.

Further provisions have been made for families in special circumstances. If the breadwinner is not at work, and is drawing sick or unemployment benefit, provisions will be made, under the new National Insurance proposals, for

the first child, who would not normally be eligible for an allowance.

Family allowances will belong to the mother but, for the convenience of the parents, either the father or the mother will be able to draw the cash at any post office in Britain. Allowances will be payable on Tuesday each week, and will be claimed on presentation of a book containing weekly orders, valid for six months.

—Bulletin of Child Welfare League of America, April, 1946.

World-Wide Social Work

In Brussels, Belgium, from August 26-28 a *preparatory* conference will be held for the purpose of reviving the International Conference of Social Work, with all its potentialities for providing a meeting place for social workers from different countries.

Among the items on the agenda are discussion of urgent problems of social work in various countries of the world

today and decisions on immediate tasks and future program of the International Conference. Also the relation of social work on a world scale of the United Nations Economic and Social Council will be considered.

The Canadian Welfare Council has appointed delegates to this preparatory Conference.

A New Name

IN LINE with the general trend to broaden agency titles and escape the charitable connotations inherent in some of the older names, the erstwhile Family Welfare Association of America has announced its new name. As of June 1, 1946, it will be known as the Family Service Association of America, a change approved by a majority vote of the private family agency members.

Horizons of Hope

JOHN W. JONES

The story of London's amateur-made
16 mm. motion picture of the work
of the Crippled Children's Council.

LONDON wanted to make a motion picture of its social services. After much seeking and frustration, due to the fact that it requires several thousand dollars to make a 16 mm. sound film, they hit upon the idea of an amateur-produced film. Immediately their problems began to vanish, including the bogey of the large financial outlay. They discovered that in London, as in most other communities, there are amateur movie makers. They are a special branch of that larger group of the photographic species sometimes referred to as camera-fiends. The movie maker, however, is usually an incurable addict to his hobby. Sometimes he is politely called a cine-amateur; more frequently he is dubbed "cinebug". Most of these fellows have the zeal and ambition to slave with their hobby for a public welfare project. So, to the aspiring community, the advice is first, find your cinebug.

This is how it worked out. The London Community Chest leaders found their camera man. At the first meeting of sponsors and other interested persons, he assumed the responsibility for production. All local social welfare activities were discussed from a movie maker's point of view. From the angle of propaganda value, it soon became apparent, that better results could be obtained by dramatizing the story of just one of their fourteen

major activities. They chose the work of the Crippled Children's Council. It was a wise selection. The plight of unfortunate children always tugs at the heart strings.

Next came the story conferences. A local newspaper man wrote an article about the chosen subject. Various points of authenticity and heart appeal were carefully checked and re-checked. Eventually, all concerned approved the story. At this point, actual production commenced. It was now time to convert the story into a filming script. The London Little Theatre were asked to add their support. An experienced amateur director rewrote the story in scenario form. With an appreciation of scenes and acting required, it soon became easy to break this down into a simple filming script. Unlike stage or play acting, a film story is a series of shorter actions and sequences. By the magic of film technique, time lapse and change of locale are bridged by short scenes spliced together in their correct order. The filming script then, is a description of the separate scenes and action, necessary to portray the original story.

Meanwhile, plans for the actual filming and for the lighting of scenes had been going ahead. Many people volunteered their services to act. Men took time off from their work to help arrange lighting for indoor scenes. It is just

human nature for people to get on the band wagon of a good venture and so there came a profusion of inexperienced but willing camera men, script girls, electricians, property and wardrobe assistants, actors and, of course, many curious spectators. Business girls and housewives either alibied or just stayed away from their duties long enough to share in the fun. As each new worker joined the effort, enthusiasm rose. Here was a voluntary production staff. Outside of the camera man, none of them had had any filming experience, yet they all worked together like veterans.

The actual filming was divided into two parts; the indoor and outdoor scenes. All the indoor scenes were shot in two mornings. A parish hall with a suitable interior was used for this purpose. Here the furniture and furnishings were placed to simulate the various room scenes of the story. The outdoor scenes were also filmed in two days.

The local street and play scenes required only a morning. Those which had as their locale the camp of The Crippled Children's Society, required a whole day. This was due to the travelling time necessary to reach the camp on the shores of Georgian Bay.

The return of the processed film provided a new thrill. Here at last were the scenes in full color Kodachrome, which revealed the workers' hours of team work. Under the direction of the camera man, these amateurs were soon editing and cutting film, if not

with professional skill, at least with the zeal of interested artists. Some of the work, particularly the main titles, were necessarily the work of the camera man. Even here, however, an enthusiastic helper painted the art background for the lead titles. As the titles and scenes were sliced into their proper story sequence, the enthusiasm grew. Even the fully assembled footage did not mean completion of the job. Screen reviews brought criticisms from the staff. There was more cutting and editing until all the critics were satisfied. It took time, it is true, about three months in all.

Then came the day of the finished film.

The preview, of course, was for the production staff, cast and sponsors only. Although filmed as a silent movie, it was screened to the accompaniment of sound effects and suitable musical background. The sound was produced with a dual turntable record player. This was connected to the input plug of the sound projector and from there carried to the loud speaker in the regular way. The effect, although without dialogue, has the same dramatic punch as a studio produced sound film. There was one great difference—the cost. It was about two hundred dollars, just the bare cost of the film used. Other expenses and incidental costs were donated. Finally, a donor even paid for the film.

From its first showing several years ago till the present time, the film *Horizons of Hope*, has told to thousands the story of the need of

-Jul.

helping crippled children. Additional copies have been printed from the original film and these are also in circulation.

The National Film Board loaned the services of one of their projection instructors. An eager group of trained lady projectionists secured through The Central Volunteer Bureau, now show this film regardless of the size of the audience. It may be an auditorium full of people or just a handful of ladies at a home sewing party. The message of the social service of this city is constantly being driven into the minds of its citizens. These spectators now appreciate "the-

hard-to-sell" story of the social welfare work in their city. No longer is it a vague and high-brow activity. It is real and vital to them. The film impressed that in their memory. Community Chest canvassers now find it easier to secure subscriptions, because resistance has been reduced.

Soon London will undertake another documentary film. Other branches of its social work need interpretation and eager helpers are "rarin' to go". This is undoubtedly true in your own city; the production talent is lying dormant there now. How should you start? First, find a cinebug!

About People

Lillian Thomson succeeds Louise Gates as General Secretary of the National Council, Y.W.C.A. She is now attending the World Y.W.C.A. meeting in Geneva.

Jack Balcombe has been appointed Supervisor of Welfare Services in British Columbia for the Family Allowances Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare. Mr. Balcombe, a graduate of the B.C. School of Social Work, served overseas with the R.C.A.F. and was a Prisoner of War in Germany.

The Department of Social Welfare of Saskatchewan has appointed Marie Parr, formerly with the Dependents' Allowance Board, Ottawa, and with experience in

several Montreal agencies, as Assistant Director of its Child Welfare Branch.

W. H. Bury, formerly on the supervisory staff of the Children's Aid Branch of the Ontario Department of Public Welfare, succeeds Mae Fleming as Director of that Branch and his position as supervisor has been filled by Stanley Crowe, recently discharged from the Directorate of Social Science of the Army.

Gordon Foster, for a number of years Superintendent of the Children's Aid Society of Simcoe County in Ontario, has been honoured by appointment as Magistrate and his position with the Children's Aid Society has been

filled by Howard Naphtali, formerly in charge of the District Social Service Office of M.D.3.

The vacancy in the Children's Aid Society of Central Manitoba occasioned by the appointment of Nora J. Rowe to the Council of Social Agencies of Greater Winnipeg is being filled by Fred Promoli, recently with the Directorate of Social Science of the Army.

Reg. Rose has moved out of the Community Chest field to assume the important position of Director of the Vancouver Chamber of Commerce. At the time of going to press, no appointment has been made to fill the position of Executive Director of the Edmonton Community Chest.

After months of being without the services of an Executive Director, the Saskatoon Community Chest and Council has announced the appointment of George Por-

teous, formerly with the Y.M.C.A. in Hong Kong, where he was a Prisoner of War.

David Decker, who served throughout the war as Personnel Counsellor with the Navy, becomes the Executive Director of the Community Chest and Council of Greater Victoria.

Viola Gilfillan has resigned from the staff of the Dependents' Board of Trustees at Toronto and has assumed the duties of Case Supervisor of the Big Sister Association in that city.

Francoise Marchand succeeds Mme L. Langlois, who has resigned, as Executive Director of the Bureau d'Assistance Sociale Aux Familles in Montreal.

In Quebec City, the Service Familial de Quebec has taken over the services of L'Aide aux Familles de Combattants.

LINTON B. SWIFT

American social work lost one of its outstanding people when Mr. Linton B. Swift, General Director of the Family Welfare Association of America for the past twenty-one years, died on April 11th.

Mr. Swift was a graduate of the University of Minnesota and St. Paul College of Law. Among other activities he served on that section of the United States Peace Commission devoted to the protection of minorities in newly created states after the first world war. He was a past president of the National Conference of Social Work and of the American Association of Social Workers. He was a member of the Advisory Committee of the Federal Security Commission and helped organize the National Case Work Council and later the National Social Welfare Assembly. He was well known as the author of a number of articles on social work matters.

BOOK REVIEWS



YOUTH CHALLENGES THE EDUCATORS. Prepared for The Canadian Youth Commission. Ryerson Press, Toronto, 1946. 151 pp. Price \$1.00.

This little book naturally divides itself into two almost equal parts. The first half is unique and should not be missed by anyone interested in Canadian youth. Indeed one hopes it will be widely read outside as well as inside Canada. Never before, so far as I am aware, have the youth of a *whole nation* been invited to make known their opinions concerning their own education. (There have, of course, been numerous surveys of educational opinion in cities and constituent States of the U.S.A.)

Under the auspices of the Canadian Youth Commission we have here a picture of what Canadian youth thinks of the education it is undergoing or has recently undergone, a picture not pieced together at haphazard, but carefully composed and framed as the result of a program of research competently planned and duly executed. The opinions are drawn from four sources, (1) the answers to a lengthy questionnaire completed by over 1400 young Canadians between the ages of 15 and 24 years, (2) one hundred and twenty-two briefs on education submitted by groups of young people from all over Canada, (3) the results of a survey conducted

by the Canadian Institute of Public Opinion (Gallup Poll), and (4) carefully conducted interviews with 250 representative young people across Canada.

For their opinions, you must go to the book itself. Suffice it here to say that the opinions expressed show young Canadians to be a remarkably hard-headed and clear-thinking crew. Anyone who expects to find ill-digested thinking or ill-informed or utopian suggestions will be disappointed. Indeed it is to be remarked how well the young people agree with the experts whose opinions are presented in Chapter 5. At this point I admit to having felt a little complacency. The ability shown by young Canadians in diagnosing our educational shortcomings argues in itself that they must have had a reasonably good education themselves. Should you feel likewise I beg of you to read again the chapter on Personal Interviews. It will quickly dissipate any complacency.

The second half of the book presents a curious paradox. It presumably states the opinions of the distinguished group of men (no women—that was a mistake) who formed the Committee on Education of the Canadian Youth Commission. But instead of being written in the usual dry and dull style of committee reports, it is written with plenty of point, punch and lucidity. This has the great

advantage of making it easy and interesting to read even when dealing with technical matters. But one can't help finding in it, at least in some parts, very personal and individual opinions expressed in a very personal and individual style. This is the particular excellence of the chapter entitled "The School and Democratic Living" which is the most lively and stimulating brief discussion of the topic known to me. Such a discussion is, as I say, excellent, but at the same time has brought about some lack of cohesion between the two halves of the book. It is not that the Committee disagrees with the **opinions** of Canadian youth, but that their essential agreement on all important matters is not emphasized.

For the opinions of the Committee, you must again go to the book itself. You will not find anywhere a clearer or more up-to-date statement of Canada's educational needs nor a more lucid exposition of how they can be met. One further merit of the book should be mentioned, namely, that the Committee very wisely interpreted "education" to mean not merely "schooling" but education in the widest sense. As a result, social workers, employees, parents, community leaders and many others, in addition to those directly connected with the schools, will find much to interest them.

This book, as I have indicated, is something new. In addition it is both refreshing and stimulating. Do not miss it.

ALEX. S. MOWAT,
Professor of Education, Dalhousie University, Halifax.

MARRIAGE IN WAR AND PEACE, by Grace Sloan Overton. Abingdon-Cokesbury Press, New York. 190 pp. Price \$1.75.

Grace Sloan Overton, who is the author of this book, is well-equipped to write on the subject of marriage. She has had, perhaps, more experience in youth counselling than any other youth leader. In the University Christian Mission, she visited for a week, each, forty-nine colleges and universities. At present, half of her time is being spent on college campuses. For twelve years she was an instructor and lecturer at American colleges and universities, has held an executive position on the Youth Division of the Greater New York Federation of Churches, and is on the special committee which deals with marriage and the home. Grace Sloan Overton is also married and is a mother.

The book is printed in clear type, and is easy to read. At the beginning of each chapter is a list of the subjects in each section, and this is very helpful for reference purposes. In order to illustrate the problems which are presented, the author has made use of vivid word pictures, generally in direction narration, which makes the case live. For instance, the first chapter opens with these words: "Life has just bogged down for me," said Joe, as he returned to his native home after sixteen months in France. "My sweetheart didn't think me worth the waiting. Neither did the school trustees, for that matter—I've just been told that there is not another teaching job for me." The

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best his family and friends could say was: 'Don't worry Joe. Give yourself a little time; you'll get a hold on yourself.'

The chapters are entitled: "The Twenties and the Forties", "Soldier and Veteran", "Woman in War and Peace", "The Family and Reconversion", "Marriage—the American Way", "War Marriage and Post-War Family Living".

Such things as "Isolation from Family Functionings" are discussed in a very definite way. "Not worthy of her—she is so lovely. I'm simply a beast, a heel." The speaker was on the seventh day of his furlough, after fifteen months in the Pacific. Before going overseas, his romance of two years had culminated in marriage to a lovely girl whom he had idealized and dreamed much about. Overseas, and away from all the normal and civilian and home ways, he had violated his marriage vows many times. Home now, he found he could not bring himself "to touch his wife".

One chapter deals with the continuing man shortage and its effect on marriage. The problem of exaggerated vocational opportunities for women was presented well also the case of the abnormal war income. There is frank discussion about "How far one can go" in the matter of love-making.

The most valuable part of the book for the social worker and clergyman is the chapter which deals with war marriage and post-war family living. Such things as the mixing of cultural backgrounds in marriage are discussed. A

Southerner meets a Northerner; soldiers married abroad; the adjustment of living together; inter-faith marriages presented from the Roman Catholic, Jewish and Protestant points of view; and the case of the wives and sweethearts of our war dead. The last paragraph is called "Redemptive Normality" and sums up the whole book—getting into the normal peace-time stride by way of understanding how the war has touched a great number of marriages.

This book would be helpful for anyone who has to deal with the generation who made love and married, under the shadow of war, or who, on the contrary, were frustrated in their attempts to do so.

REV. J. GRANT SPARLING, S/L, R.C.A.F.,
Rector, Christ Church, Belleville, Ontario.

CLINICAL PASTORAL TRAINING.

Edited by Seward Hiltner.
Federal Council of the Churches,
297 Fourth Ave., New York,
1945. 176 pp. Price \$1.00.

This book is composed of a number of addresses delivered at the National Conference on Clinical Training in Theological Education held in Pittsburgh in 1944. It states clearly the position taken by leaders in the field of theology as they consider the matter of how best to introduce to men and women training for the ministry a first-hand knowledge of human problems.

Much credit is given to the early pioneering work done in this field by Richard C. Cabot, M.D., author of *Adventures in the Borderland of Ethics*. Dr. Cabot saw the time when a "clinical theology" would

emerge which would serve as supplementary or corroborative to "revealed theology".

There is an historical review of the growth of the clinical idea in church work during the past twenty years. The program initiated by Dr. Anton T. Boisen, in the Worcester State Hospital (Mental) at Worcester, Mass., in 1925 and developed on a year-round basis has long been regarded as the model of clinical training. Variations from Dr. Boisen's concept of clinical training have sprung up elsewhere in the United States and the conference here recorded is an attempt to unify the various points of view and to consolidate gains made during twenty

years.

In this book there is sound sense and a much needed emphasis on the importance of special knowledge and skills in dealing with human problems. It indicates a new directional focus in theological training akin to the case method of other professions.

Clinical Pastoral Training is a thought-provoking book of considerable practical interest particularly to those who guide theological education.

V. LORNE STEWART,

Acting Judge, Toronto Family Court.

Judge Stewart is a minister of the United Church and has had special training in the United States in pastoral psychiatry. He also has his M.A. in psychology from the University of Toronto.—Editor.

THE CHURCH AND SOCIAL WORK

THE Committee expresses the opinion that Divinity Schools should re-think and possibly reconstruct the whole curriculum in a realistic way in view of the actualities of both present and post-war conditions. This may involve a revolution in both the content and method of training for modern parish work. It will still be necessary to train students as doctrinal expositors and as precentors in Christian worship. But it will be more and more essential to an effective preparation for parish work that students learn the facts that will make their doctrinal expositions meaningful in the contemporary community and that will help them to relate worship and work in the modern world. It is important that a student should be familiar with theology but it is also important that he be acquainted with sociology. It is important that he should have a knowledge of the geography of the Holy Land, but it is also important that he should know, and know thoroughly, the community in which his work is to be done. The sacred ministry which shares with professions like medicine and social work a ministry to human beings should be content with standards of proficiency no less exacting than the standards set in these. Our students should be trained so that as "men of God" they will be leaders of opinion and will be trained craftsmen who need not be ashamed of their skill in dealing effectively with the prevalent diseases of the soul and of society.

—Excerpt from a report of a committee of the Church of England in Canada, on *The Training of Theological Students in Social Subjects, 1945.*

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Among the Publications Added to the Council Library

An Experimental Use of the Temporary Home, Child Welfare League of America, Inc. 1946. 27 pp. 50 cents.

The Role of the Baby in the Placement Process, Pennsylvania School of Social Work of the University of Pennsylvania, 2410 Pine Street, Philadelphia 3, Penna. 1946. 113 pp. 85 cents.

Adopting a Child, The Iowa Board of Control of State Institutions, Des Moines, Iowa. 1941. 24 pp.

Men on the Move, Nels Anderson. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Ill. 1940. 357 pp. \$3.90.

Scientific Approach to Chronic Alcoholism, Research Council on Problems of Alcohol, 60 East 42nd Street, New York City 17, N.Y. 1946. 32 pp.

Principles of Social Case Recording, Gordon Hamilton. Published for New York School of Social Work by Columbia University Press, New York. 1946. 142 pp. \$2.00.

The General and Specific Aspects of Case Work in a Merged Agency, Edith L. Lauer. Child Welfare League of America, Inc., 130 East 22nd St., New York. 1942. 37 pp. 50 cents.

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AUGUST 17 - 24, 1946

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